(c) if so, what are the steps Government is taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) While the jute industry is not in a bad shape, yet, the Central Government in order to increase use of Jute, which is an eco-friendly product and in the interest of persons engaged in cultivation and production of jute products:

(i) Has announced National Jute Policy, 2005 which resolves that "jute industry will receive a fresh impetus in all respects".

(ii) Launched Jute Technology Mission (JTM) this year to address all the issues relating to jute sector.

(iii) Ordered 100% compulsory Packaging for food grains and sugar in jute bags during jute year 2007-08 (July-June), under the provisions of Jute Packaging Materials Act, 1987.

Proposal to shift Handloom Institute at Bargarh, Orissa

1204. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was proposed to open a handloom institute at Bargarh in Orissa;

(b) whether it is now proposed to shift this institute to some other State;

(c) if so, the details with reasons therefor; and

(d) what is the action plan of the Centre to maintain status-quo to control resentment among the weavers of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes Sir, The Government proposed to set up a new Indian Institute of Handloom Technology at Bargarh (Orissa) under Central Sector.

(b) No Sir,

(c) and (d) Questions do not arise.

Revival of NTC mills

1205. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to revive 18 NTC mills in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating those that are proposed to be revived in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 18 mills have been identified by National Textile Corporation (NTC) for modernization through Joint Venture Route. List of these 18